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Award-Winning Journalist to Discuss New Book About Iraq War *March 22 Event is Part of the Great American Writers Series*

SAN DIEGO – Michael R. Gordon, award-winning reporter for *The New York Times*, will discuss his new book “Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq,” on Wednesday, March 22, at 7 p.m., as part of the Great American Writers Series. Co-presented by the City of San Diego Public Library and the City Club of San Diego, the event will be held at the Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, located at 3701 Voltaire St.

Gordon has served as chief military correspondent for *The New York Times* since September 2000. Prior to this, Gordon served four years in Moscow as the newspaper’s correspondent and bureau chief. He is the co-author, along with Gen. Bernard E. Trainor, of “The Generals’ War: The Inside Story of the Conflict in the Gulf,” an account of the Persian Gulf War, published in 1995. In 1989 Mr. Gordon was awarded the George Polk Award for International Reporting for his joint work with *Times* correspondent Stephen Engelberg on the proliferation of chemical weapons.

Gordon’s new book, again co-written with Trainor, is “Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq.” The book offers a galvanizing account of the strategy, the personalities, the battles, the diplomacy, the adversary, and the occupation.

Gordon had unparalleled access to top military brass and was in the war room with Tommy Franks, Donald Rumsfeld and the field generals who were key in the formulation and execution of the war strategy. He has interviewed an extraordinary range of officials, including Franks, Condoleezza Rice, Steve Hadley, Paul Wolfowitz, Marc Grossman (the third ranking State Department official), Jerry Bremer, Gen. Richard Meyers (chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff), as well as virtually every general, regimental commander and brigade commander involved in the conflict. He has had access to classified military and diplomatic documents, military archives and internal after-action reports and oral histories not meant for public consumption.

The continuing Great American Writers Series, which began in 1999, features the whole genre of American writing – fiction, non-fiction and journalism. Past authors have included Doris Kearns Goodwin, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., George Plimpton, Rick Reilly, Paul Theroux and many others.

The cost of the March 22 event is \$5 per person. Copies of “Cobra II” will be available for purchase and signing by the author. To make a reservation, contact the City Club of San Diego at 619-687-3580 or cityclubofsandiego@prodigy.net. The corporate sponsor of the event is the California Western School of Law.

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